Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently Amended) A priming device for a detonator, comprising:

timing means for establishing a timing interval and for timing the action of a firing element of a primer, wherein the timing means comprises switching means;

an electrical power supply that provides a first power intensity to the timing means; and

power generating means for generating~~, through a resistive circuit and charged capacitor,~~ a second power intensity sufficient to actuate the firing element upon expiration of ~~a~~ the timing interval, wherein the timing means and power generating means have resistors limiting ~~the current~~ the first power intensity, the first power intensity from the power supply not being sufficient~~, even as other components fail,~~ to actuate the firing element even if the switching means fails.

15. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 14, wherein the ~~power generating~~timing means further comprises a capacitor~~, switching means,~~ and controlling means, the controlling means controlling the switching means by allowing the capacitor to be charged for a charging time and then discharged, the discharge causing the firing element to act on the primer.

16. (Currently Amended) A priming device for a detonator, comprising:

~~an electrical power supply~~a timing means for establishing a timing interval and for timing the action of a firing element of a primer; and

power generating means for generating~~, through a resistive circuit having resistors limiting current intensity,~~ a current intensity sufficient to actuate the firing element

upon expiration of ~~a~~ the timing interval, the ~~power generating~~timing means comprising a capacitor, switching means, and controlling means for controlling the switching means by allowing the capacitor to be charged for a charging time during the timing interval and then discharged, the discharge causing the firing element to act on the primer, wherein the timing means and power generating means have resistors to prevent actuation of the firing element even if the switching means fails.

17. (Previously Added) The device of claim 16, wherein the control means comprises a microcontroller.

18. (Previously Added) The device of claim 17, wherein the switching means comprises transistors.

19. (Previously Added) The device of claim 17, wherein the timing means have programming means for programming the timing interval.

20. (Previously Added) The device of claim 19, wherein the programming means have at least one code wheel electrically connected to the microcontroller.

21. (Previously Added) The device of claim 20, wherein the code wheel is luminescent.

22. (Previously Added) The device of claim 19, wherein the programming means comprises external programming means and information transferring means for transferring programmed data from the external programming means to the microcontroller.

23. (Previously Added) The device of claim 22, wherein the external programming means comprises an electrical power supply, a microcontroller, a display, and two programming switches.

24. (Previously Added) The device of claim 22, wherein the information transferring means comprises phototransistors.

25. (Previously Added) The device of claim 22, wherein the external programming means comprises a microcomputer.

26. (Previously Added) The device of claim 22, wherein the information transferring means comprises an electrical connector connected to the microcontroller.

27. (Previously Added) The device of claim 16, wherein the switching means comprises a mechanical timing means.

28. (Previously Added) The device of claim 16, further comprising booby-trap means for deliberately authorizing firing of the primer.

29. (Previously Added) The device of claim 28, wherein the booby-trap means comprises a tripwire connected to the microcontroller.

30. (Canceled)

31. (Canceled)

32. (New) The device of claim 14, wherein the switching means comprises an electromechanical assembly.

33. (New) The device of claim 16, wherein the switching means comprises an electromechanical assembly.

34. (New) The device of claim 15, wherein the controlling means comprises a microcontroller; and wherein the first power intensity for the power supply is not sufficient to actuate the firing element even if the microcontroller fails.

35. (New) The device of claim 17, wherein the first power intensity from the power supply is not sufficient to actuate the firing element even if the microcontroller fails.

36. (New) A priming device for a detonator, comprising:

a timer which establishes a timing interval to time the action of a firing element of a primer, wherein the timer comprises a controller coupled to a capacitor by a

switch, and wherein the switch includes an electromechanical assembly coupled to the capacitor; and

a power supply that provides a first power intensity to the timer, wherein:

the first power intensity is not sufficient to actuate the firing element; and

the first power intensity combined with a power intensity provided by discharging the capacitor at the expiration of the timing interval provides a second power intensity sufficient to actuate the firing element.

37. (New) The priming device of claim 36, wherein the switch further comprises closure switch coupled to the controller.

51 cncl.

38. (New) The priming device of claim 36, wherein the switch further comprises a first transistor coupled to the capacitor, a second transistor coupled to the electromechanical assembly, and a third transistor coupled to the electromechanical assembly.

39. (New) The priming device of claim 36, wherein the timer has a programming means for programming the timing interval.

40. (New) The priming device of claim 39, wherein the programming means has at least one code wheel electrically connected to the controller.

41. (New) The priming device of claim 39, wherein the programming means comprises external programming means and information transferring means for transferring program data from the external programming means to the microcontroller.

42. (New) The priming device of claim 36, further comprising booby-trap means for deliberately authorizing firing of the primer.